

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/806,618

Applicant(s)

ATSMON ET AL.

Examiner

Bharat N. Barot

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 03/07/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-3, 8-14, 17-24, 27, 34-41, 43-45, 50-59, 146, 149, 151, and 154-155 re-numbered as 1-44.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 29 March 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 09/17/04 & 02/25/0
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date attached hereto.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

BHARAT BAROT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

(571)272-3979

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Yaakov Schatz (Reg. No. 44,320) on May 26, 2005.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (CANCELED)

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of communicating with an electronic device having a computer, the method comprising:

providing a said computer having an audible sound receiving and generating sub-system including a microphone and a loudspeaker;

transmitting from a source at least one first acoustic signal, encoded with information, to the said computer;

receiving said at least one first acoustic signal by said microphone, to be detected by said computer; and

processing said at least one first acoustic signal to extract said encoded information; and

transmitting to said source, using said loudspeaker, at least a second acoustic signal, encoded with information, in response with to said detected at least one first acoustic signal.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 2, wherein at least one of said at least one first acoustic signal and at least a second acoustic signal comprises an ultrasonic signal.

4. to 7. (CANCELED)

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of communicating with an electronic device having a computer, the method comprising:

providing a said computer having a sound receiving and generating sub-system including a microphone;

transmitting from a source at least one acoustic signal, encoded with information to the said computer; and

receiving said at least one acoustic signal by said microphone; and

forwarding an indication of said encoded information to a remote computer, over an Internet, wherein; the said at least one acoustic signal comprises a stand alone signal not overlaid on a human tangible signal.

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9. (ORIGINAL) A method according to claim 8, wherein said indication comprises a sound file.

10. (ORIGINAL) A method according to claim 8, wherein said indication comprises a data file.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method according to claim 8, wherein said acoustic signal comprises an ultrasonic signal.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 2, wherein said computer comprises a PDA, personal digital assistant.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 2, wherein said computer comprises a portable computer.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 2, wherein said computer comprises a desk-top computer.

15. to 16. (CANCELED)

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim ~~15~~ 2, wherein said processing comprises determining a distance between said microphone and said source.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim ~~15~~ 2, wherein said processing comprises determining movement of said microphone relative to said source.

19. (ORIGINAL) A method according to claim 18, wherein said movement comprises angular movement.

20. (ORIGINAL) A method according to claim 18, wherein said movement comprises translation.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim ~~15~~ 2, wherein said processing comprises determining a spatial position of said microphone relative to said source.

22. (ORIGINAL) A method according to claim 21, wherein said spatial position is a one-dimensional spatial position.

23. (ORIGINAL) A method according to claim 21, wherein said spatial position is a two-dimensional spatial position

24. (ORIGINAL) A method according to claim 21, wherein said spatial position is a three-dimensional spatial position

25. to 26. (CANCELED)

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 45 2, comprising controlling at least one action of a toy, responsive to said received at least one audible sound.

28. to 33. (CANCELED)

34. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 2, wherein said source comprises a toy.

35. (ORIGINAL) A method according to claim 34, wherein said information comprises stored player input.

36. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 2, wherein said source comprises a smart card.

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37. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 2, wherein said source comprises a wireless communication device.

38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 2, wherein said source comprises a computer.

39. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 2, wherein said source comprises a computer peripheral.

40. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 2, wherein said encoded information comprises personal information.

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 2, comprising logging into a said computer system responsive to said at least transmitted one first acoustic signal.

42. (CANCELED)

43. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method according to claim 2 , wherein said acoustic signal comprises human audible sound.

44. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 43, wherein said human audible sound has a main frequency over 10kHz.

45. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 2, wherein said first acoustic signal has a main frequency which is infra-sonic.

46. to 49. (CANCELED)

50. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 2, wherein said audible sound sub-system comprises a sound card.

51. (ORIGINAL) A method according to claim 50, wherein said sound card comprises a SoundBlaster compatible sound card.

52. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 2, wherein said sound sub-system is designed for audible sound communication with a human operator.

53. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 3, wherein said ultrasonic signal has a main frequency below 50kHz.

54. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 3, wherein said ultrasonic signal has a main frequency below 35kHz.

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55. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 3, wherein said ultrasonic signal has a main frequency below 25kHz.

56. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 3, wherein said ultrasonic signal has a main frequency of about 21kHz.

57. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 3, wherein said ultrasonic signal has a main frequency of about 20kHz.

58. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 3, wherein said ultrasonic signal has a main frequency of about 19kHz.

59. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 3, wherein said ultrasonic signal has a main frequency of below 18kHz.

60. to 145. (CANCELED)

146. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method according to claim 2, wherein said source comprises a telephone.

147. to 148. (CANCELED)

149. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method according to claim 8, wherein said source comprises a telephone.

150. (CANCELED)

151. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method according to claim 2, wherein said information comprises e-commerce information.

152. to 153. (CANCELED)

154. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method according to claim 8, wherein said information comprises e-commerce information.

155. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 4 3, wherein the said at least one ultrasonic acoustic signal comprises a stand alone signal not overlaid on a human tangible signal.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance or Examiner Amendment."

CONTACT INFORMATION

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bharat Barot whose telephone number is (571) 272-3979. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne, can be reached at (571) 272-4001.

Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.


BHARAT BAROT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Patent Examiner Bharat Barot

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May 26, 2005